

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LOME 02012 280226Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 SS-15 SP-02

NSC-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PRS-01 STR-04

TRSE-00 /078 W

-----106146 280236Z /66

R 271100Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY BISSAU

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

S E C R E T LOME 2012

USEC FOR EC BRUSSELS

USMTN GENEVA

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN EGEN TO

SUBJ: ECOWAS FUND MEETING IN LOME: HORTON GETS KEY EYADEMA SUPPORT

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REF: A LOME 653 B LOME 1657 C MONROVIA 4999

1. EMBOFF HAD EXTENDED CONVERSATION WITH ECOWAS FUND MANAGING
DIRECTOR HORTON JULY 26.

HE WAS GLOWING OVER FUND MEETING. HE SAID SUCCESS
WAS ALL THE SWEETER BECAUSE OF EVENTS IN LAGOS WHICH

NEARLY PREVENTED LOME FUND MEETING FROM TAKING PLACE. HE EXPLAINED THAT WHILE IN LAGOS HE HAD BEEN INFORMED OF A MOVE ON THE PART OF "A BIG POWER" (NIGERIA) TO CANCEL THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING SCHEDULED FOR LOME ON THE GROUNDS THAT HORTON WAS NOT PREPARED. HORTON SAID HE LEARNED OF THE PLAN PRECISELY BECAUSE HE HAD DONE HIS HOMEWORK AND FIRMLY ESTABLISHED HIS CONTACTS. HE FELT THE NIGERIANS HAD MISJUDGED HIM BY ACCEPTING THE OUTWARD APPEARANCES OF HIS OPEN GOOD NATURE.

2. TO QUASH THIS "CONSPIRACY" TO CANCEL THE MEETING HORTON SAID HE FLEW IMMEDIATELY BACK TO TOGO AND CALLED ON PRESIDENT EYADEMA AT HIS PRIVATE RESIDENCE IN PYA, NORTHERN TOGO ON JULY 20. (COMMENT: EMBASSY HAD NOTED RATHER ODD ARTICLE IN JULY 20 TOGO-PRESSE OF A PRIVATE MEETING BETWEEN HORTON AND EYADEMA IN PYA AT TIME WHEN HORTON WAS SUPPOSED TO BE IN LAGOS.) THERE HORTON SAID HE INFORMED THE PRESIDENT OF THE MANEUVERINGS IN LAGOS AND ASKED FOR TWO FAVORS: 1) THAT EYADEMA ANNOUNCE THAT HE WOULD PERSONALLY OPEN THE CONFERENCE, AND 2) THAT EYADEMA OFFER A DINNER IN HONOR OF THE DIRECTORS. EYADEMA AGREED TO DO BOTH. EYADEMA SUGGESTED THAT HORTON WALK INTO THE HALL WITH HIM AT OPENING CEREMONIES TO MAKE TOGOLESE SUPPORT FOR HIM EVIDENT.

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EM TO COMPLETE THIS LAYING ON THE PRESIDENTIAL HANDS, EYADEMA THEN DECIDED AT OPENING PROCEEDINGS TO INTERRUPT PROGRAM AND CALL FOR A MINUTE OF SILENCE IN MEMORY OF LIBERIAN VICE PRESIDENT WHO RECENTLY DIED. AT THIS POINT IN THE OPENING CEREMONY, EYADEMA THEN REACHED OVER AND SHOOK HORTON'S HAND. THERE WAS NO QUESTION IN THE HALL BY THIS TIME THAT HORTON HAD THE CONFIDENCE OF EYADEMA.

4. COMMENT: HORTON'S ADROIT USE OF EYADEMA'S CANDELPPOWER INDICATES CONSIDERABLE POLITICAL SKILL. IT IS OBVIOUS ALSO THAT THE NIGERIANS MAY HAVE OVERPLAYED THEIR HAND BECAUSE THREATENING TO CANCEL THE LOME MEETING DOUBTLESS INFURIATED THE TOGOLESE PRESIDENT. IN ANY CASE, THE LOME MEETING HAS COME OFF WELL TO DATE AND HORTON DESERVES HIGH MARKS. PALMER

SECRET

NNN

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770269-1031
Format: TEL
From: LOME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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TAGS: EFIN, EGEN, ECON, TO
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